

Chenoweth	Hutchinson	Rahall
Clay	Jackson (IL)	Rangel
Clyburn	Jefferson	Riggs
Collins	Johnson (WI)	Rivers
Combest	Kanjorski	Rodriguez
Condit	Kaptur	Rohrabacher
Conyers	Kildee	Rothman
Costello	Kilpatrick	Roybal-Allard
Coyne	Kingston	Royce
Cummings	Klecza	Rush
Danner	Klink	Sanders
Davis (IL)	Kucinich	Sandlin
Deal	Lampson	Serrano
DeFazio	Lee	Sherman
DeGette	Lewis (GA)	Smith (MI)
DeLauro	Lipinski	Smith (NJ)
Deutsch	LoBiondo	Solomon
Dingell	Martinez	Spence
Doyle	Mascara	Stark
Duncan	McKinney	Stokes
Emerson	McNulty	Strickland
Engel	Meek (FL)	Stump
Evans	Meeks (NY)	Stupak
Fattah	Metcalf	Taylor (MS)
Filner	Millender	Thompson
Franks (NJ)	McDonald	Thurman
Gallely	Mink	Towns
Gejdenson	Moakley	Trafficant
Gonzalez	Mollohan	Turner
Goode	Ney	Velazquez
Green	Norwood	Vislosky
Hefley	Oberstar	Wamp
Hilleary	Obey	Watts (OK)
Hilliard	Olver	Wexler
Hinchey	Owens	Whitfield
Holden	Pallone	Wise
Horn	Pascrell	Wynn
Hostettler	Payne	Young (AK)
Hunter	Peterson (MN)	

## NOT VOTING—14

Brady (TX)	Murtha	Skelton
Burton	Poshard	Torres
Goss	Pryce (OH)	Waters
Kennelly	Sanchez	Yates
Manton	Schaefer, Dan	

□ 1814

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, due to a death in my immediate family, I was not present during today's floor proceedings. Had I been here, I would have voted "Yea" on rollcall vote number 457; "Yea" on rollcall vote number 458; "No" on rollcall number 459; and "Yea" on rollcall vote 460.

## AUTHORIZING THE CLERK TO MAKE CORRECTIONS IN EN-GROSSMENT OF H.R. 3736, WORK-FORCE IMPROVEMENT AND PROTECTION ACT OF 1998

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that, in the engrossment of the bill, H.R. 3736, the Clerk be authorized to correct section numbers, cross-references and punctuation, and to make such stylistic, clerical, technical, conforming and other changes as may be necessary to reflect the actions of the House in amending the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

## APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON S. 2206, HUMAN SERVICES REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate bill (S. 2206) to amend the Head Start Act, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, and the Community Services Block Grant Act to reauthorize and make improvements to those Acts, to establish demonstration projects that provide an opportunity for persons with limited means to accumulate assets, and for other purposes, with House amendments thereto, insist on the House amendments, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania? The Chair hears none and, without objection, appoints the following conferees:

Messrs. GOODLING, CASTLE, SOUDER, CLAY, and MARTINEZ.

There was no objection.

## SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

## GOP RESPONSE TO AG CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago, this body made a commitment to the American farmer. Like a majority of my colleagues, I stood on this very floor during that farm bill debate and promised my farmers that the Federal Government would walk hand in hand with them as our Nation began the transition to a 21st-century-based agricultural economy, such an economy that depends less on government and more on letting hard-working American farmers and ranchers do their best in producing the finest crops and produce in the world.

Congress and the President must hold true to our pledge and remain committed to these free market principles. But, at the same time, the Federal Government must recognize that agriculture, more than any other sector of the economy, is constantly subject to conditions beyond its immediate control.

Unfortunately, this has been evident in recent years as unprecedented weather conditions have pummeled America's farmers, and the effect of these conditions upon America's rural communities has been devastating.

In my home State of Georgia, the most recent study done by the University of Georgia places the 1998 crop losses from forces of nature beyond the control of farmers in the State of Georgia alone at \$767 million. From flood-

soaked cotton last winter to frost-damaged peaches this spring to drought-stricken peanuts this summer, not a single crop has been spared, and the story is the same all across rural America.

The deteriorating state of America's farm economy is a national priority, and I am pleased to see the leadership of this body stepping up to the plate and going to bat for America's farm families. In the absence of presidential leadership in addressing the crisis gripping our rural communities, the Republican majority has taken immediate action to protect our farmers.

Our \$4 billion disaster relief measure will place real money into our farmers' hands at a time of great need. This money can now be used to pay off past operating loans and help our family farms prepare for the future crop years, and this relief package accomplishes this without tearing apart the farm bill and its commitments made to farmers.

Included in the Republican relief measure is 2.25 billion in direct payments to farmers whose crops have been damaged by weather-related disasters, including special funds targeted to farmers who have suffered multi-year crop losses and those suffering severe livestock feed losses. The relief package also contains over 1.5 billion in aid to assist farmers in dealing with the loss of markets and the Clinton administration's inability to keep foreign markets open for our farmers.

This assistance will come in the form of one-time increases in the agricultural marketing transition payments under the 1996 farm bill. While the damage done by the administration's neglect of agricultural trade cannot be fully offset, this assistance will help farmers make it through this temporary market turnaround. While the House and Senate Republicans have had their nose to the grindstone in putting together an agriculture relief package, our farmers have only received a cold shoulder and hot air from the Clinton administration on this crisis. Now all of a sudden it is the fourth quarter, and the administration wants to get up off the sidelines and into the game.

While I do welcome the administration in getting off the bench and joining Congress on addressing this extremely important issue, I must ask the current administration, where have you been all year long with respect to our farmers? In fact, just where has this administration been on agriculture for the last 6½ years?

When Congress passed the 1996 farm bill and sent it to President Clinton for signature into law, we joined American farmers in expecting more aggressive trade policies, reduced regulation, lower taxes and increased agriculture research funding. Well, what has President Clinton given the American farmer? No viable trade policy, increased regulations, resistance to tax relief and less funding for agricultural research. Furthermore, the President's travels

have spanned the globe in recent months: China, Europe, Africa, Latin America and a number of other countries. But I have yet to see a single policy benefiting American agriculture resulting from his continuous globe trotting while, on the other hand, Chairman BOB SMITH of the House Committee on Agriculture has been successful on several different trips abroad in selling American farm products to the country that he has visited.

Our farmers need strong leadership in both good times and bad, and this administration has failed them miserably. Congress, the President and the Federal Government made a commitment to farmers just over 2 years ago. We can provide our farmers the help we need without turning our backs on that commitment. Only the Republican agricultural relief proposal accomplishes both, and I encourage my colleagues to do the right thing for American farmers and support this relief measure.

#### A PICTURE OF FREE TRADE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow Speaker GINGRICH has promised that he would bring the fast track legislation to the floor of the House of Representatives.

Some years ago, this Congress passed the North American Free Trade Agreement, a disastrous trade agreement that has led to more problems on the Mexican border, more unemployment in this country, more problems with food safety, more problems with truck safety, more problems with drug trafficking, and, ultimately, a bill that swelled, that took a trade surplus with Mexico of \$2 billion and turned it into a trade deficit of \$20 billion.

The so-called fast track legislation which Speaker GINGRICH is presenting to the House tomorrow is basically a procedural issue that will allow the extension of the North American Free Trade Agreement to the other countries of Latin America.

For those of us who voted against the passage of NAFTA in 1993, we are particularly disturbed at the idea of expanding this failed trade agreement, the North American Free Trade Agreement, to another couple of dozen Latin, Central and South American countries.

About 12 months ago at my own expense I traveled to the Mexican border. I flew to McAllen, Texas, rented a car with a couple of friends and drove across to Reynosa, Mexico. I went to the home of two auto workers, two people that worked at a large American auto plant in Mexico. Each of these workers, husband and wife, made 95 cents an hour. They brought home about \$40 a week, each of these two workers. They lived in a home with no electricity, no running water and lived in a home with dirt floors. Right behind their shack was a ditch which had

some kind of effluent running in it, certainly not clear, clean water, some kind of waste from some industrial plant or some sewage treatment or whatever, and there were children playing nearby in this ditch and nearby this ditch.

On the other side of this ditch was another shack where a young woman worked who was expecting her first child. She was in her early twenties. She and her husband lived in this tiny shack. She was working at another large American company. She was making about 90 cents an hour. She had no electricity, no running water. She had a plywood floor, a little bit better conditions. She had over in the corner of her little shack a stove that you might buy at an American department store for \$250 to \$300 that was run by a generator. This lady was paying for this stove through her company, through her employer. They were taking \$10 a week from her \$40 a week paycheck, and she was paying for this stove for 52 weeks which you could have bought in this country for \$250 to \$300.

Her brother-in-law, who lived in the other half of her shack separated by a cardboard, couple of pieces of cardboard stuck together, worked in another American factory; and he was suffering, his doctor said, at the age of about 25 or 26, from some kind of neurological damage, some kind of brain damage because he every day worked in a solution where he dipped his hands into a lead-based solution, and over time that lead solution caused him damage to his central nervous system. That same company in the United States makes the same product but does not use lead in its process. Why? Because the U.S. Government will not let that company have workers work in that lead-based solution like that.

When you look at NAFTA, you look at fast track, that is the picture of the future, that is the picture of free trade according to Speaker GINGRICH and according to the leaders of the other body. That kind of picture of the future: very low wages, weak environmental laws, nonenforced worker safety laws, problems with truck safety, problems with food safety, problems with more drugs coming across the Mexican border into the United States.

Later that day, we traveled to Laredo, Texas, and stood at the border between Nuevo Laredo and Laredo. That is the port of entry where the most trucks enter the United States, about 2,500 a day.

□ 1830

Governor Bush, the Governor of Texas, has done virtually nothing to guarantee truck safety at that checkpoint. There was one scale there, a set of scales provided by the State of Texas, which had been broken for three months.

There was one Federal truck inspector there who was in charge of inspecting these 2,500 trucks a day. I asked

him how many trucks he inspected per day, and he said 10 to 12. I asked him how many of those trucks he took out of service because they were unsafe; he said 9 to 11.

Clearly the problems of truck safety, the problems of food safety at the border, the problems of drug smuggling coming into the United States, with more and more congestion and as more and more traffic is coming into the United States, clearly all those problems have been exacerbated by the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement. Drug smugglers in Mexico, drug kingpins, have bought up legitimate trucking and shipping and freight operations and warehouse operations along the border, and are using those legitimate operations to bring more and more drugs into the country.

Mr. Speaker, NAFTA has failed miserably; Fast Track will bring more problems. We should tomorrow defeat Fast Track.

#### REVAMPING THE MONETARY SYSTEM

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BASS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I would like to call the attention of fellow colleagues to the issue of three things that have happened in the last couple of days.

Today it was recorded in our newspapers and it was a consequence of a meeting held last night having to do with a company that went bankrupt, Long-Term Capital Management. I believe this has a lot of significance and is something that we in the Congress should not ignore.

This is a hedge fund. Their capitalization is less than \$100 billion, but, through the derivatives markets, they were able to buy and speculate in over \$1 trillion worth of securities, part of the financial bubble that I have expressed concern about over the past several months.

But last night an emergency meeting was called by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. It was not called by the banks and the security firms that were standing to lose the money, but the Federal Reserve Bank of New York called an emergency meeting late last night. Some of the members of this meeting, the attendees, came back from Europe just to attend this meeting because it was of such a serious nature. They put together a package of \$3.5 billion to bail out this company.

Yesterday also Greenspan announced that he would lower interest rates. I do not think this was an accident or not coincidental. It was coincidental that at this very same time they were meeting this crisis, Greenspan had to announce that, yes indeed, he would inflate our currency, he would expand the money supply, he would increase the credit, he would lower interest rates. At least that is what the markets interpreted his statement to